FRENCH LITERATURE.

Death Busy Among the Writers.

QUINET --- ACHARD --- PERDIGUIER.

What the Parisian Publishers Are Doing.

AMERICAN BIOGRAPHIES.

Abraham Lincoln Viewed Through French Spectacles.

A LIFE OF GENERAL LEE.

"L'Ancien Orient" --- Vitet's Life of Comte Duchatel --- Fiction.

SIMONIN'S "ACROSS THE CONTINENT."

PARIS. March 30, 1875. Since my last letter was despatched death has been busy among French littérateurs. Within a lew days no less than three have passed away, all remarkable in their respective lines and all in the ulness of age. Of the three the best known and the most likely to be regretted in the United States & Edgar Quinet, who died at Versailles on Satur. tay last of an attack of apoplexy. He was born at ourg (Ain) on the 17th of February, 1803, and had, consequently, just completed his seventy-second year. It is unnecessary for me to trace the history of his long and laborious career. As soon as his death was announced by the cable the iufustrious compilers of obituaries, at your side, ad, no doubt, immediate recourse to Vapereau. n whose carefully compiled pages all the insidents of his busy and eventful life are minutely recorded. In M. Quinet's death the French democracy and the extreme Ginche sustain s severe loss. Though he took but little or no part in the debates in the National Assembly, he was nevertheless one of the consulting eniefs of the party, and it is probable that to his influence, along with that of M. Gambetta, was due the policy of prudence and self-restraint which has of late marked its course, and watch has had for its result the formal recognition of the Republic. Although at various periods of his life he distinguished nimself by the violence of his radicalism and his intense natred of the pries hood, he had frequent returns to moderation and good sense, and in the latter portion of his career he no doubt repented of much that he had said and written and would gladly have made amends for it if it were in his power. He was a man of the strictest rectitude and nicest sense of honor, and therefore it would be unfair to assume that the occasional extravagance of his views was due to anything but errors of judgment or the influence of his political associations. When a great truth mantiested itself to his mind he was never deterred from its enunciation by the fear of displeasing those with whom he acted. Let me cite as evidence of the moral courage of the man the picture drawn by him of the death of Louis XVI., in the work entitled "Revolution," and from which I will content myself with quoting the concluding lines which I find ready to my hand in one of the

journals of this morning.

" "I forgive my enemies." All the drums of Santerre could not stifle these words not prevent them reaching the ears of posterity. Louis XVI. alone spoke of forgiveness from the height of that caffold to which others were to bring sentiments of vengeance and despair. By that fact he still seems to reign over those who are about to follow him to death, full of their earthly hatreds and passions. He alone seems treed from them; he alone in possession of heaven, while the others are quarreining with each other almost under the knile.

"The human conscience will always be uneasy in the presence of Charles I. or Louis XVI. According to the new right of revolutions, they would be sondemned as guilty of lese-revolution. But they were allowed to grow in the sentiment of another public right, under which they were irrepressible and infalliole. It was the only legality of which they had any consciousness. In involving them in a common culpability they were stricken by a law to which they were strangers. Therefore, even though they might have been the guiltiest of men, there remains an eternal disquietude in the soul of posterity, which judges in last resort the legitmacy of the scaffold."

Although the style of this extract is labored and difficult its purpose is clear and worthy of all praise. Quinet was a much better man than his enemies represented him to be. Had he lived in another country and in different times, it is not improbable that he would have been one of the most conservative of men.

AMEDER ACHARD. Amédée Achard, whose death at the age of sixty-eight would seem but the exhaustion of the natural term allotted to a man of studious and laborious habits, died, strange as it may appear. from the effects of the wound which he received twenty-five years ago in his duel with Florentino, the celebrated critic. It will be remembered that the person allties in which the latter indulged provoked reprisals on the part of the Société des Gens de Lettres, which so annoyed Florentino that he resolved to challenge them separately, and he accordingly commenced in the alphabetic order by calling out Achard. The author of "Belle-Rose," who has never been wanting in personal courage, accepted the challenge and the ought with swords. Achard received a thrust in the chest which nearly periorated one of his lungs, and he lay for weeks between life and death. Fiorentino fled to London and he was so convinced of the certainty of his opponent's death that be began making preparations to remain in England and actually entered into written arrangements with a translator and publisher to pring out a series of novels in English. He expressed to me at the time the despest regret for the misfortune of his opponent, of which he had been the unhappy cause, and there is every reason to believe from the way in which he spoke of him that his death would have rendered him a misersole man, Luckily Achard recovered, but the wound left behind it a delicacy of the lungs which tures or four times subsequently, nearly proved fatal to him and watch finally killed him after an interval of nearly a quarter of a century. The deceased novelist was one of the most prolific writers of his time and his works are held in high esteem. There can be no greater ovidence of their popularity than the fact stated in one of the Paris journals that the number of newspapers in which his romances had appeared exceeded M. Achard was a Protestant the services over his remains a thousand. in the Protestant church in the Rue de Provence there was an immense gathering of people of all classes and persuasions, desirous to pay a tribute of respect to the memory of their favorite author. M. Accord had only just completed and published tis new novel, "La Cape et l'Epée," when he was attacked by his last iliness. I shall take occasion andbished, it is said, a couple of romances and several dramatic pieces. It is to be hoped that his literary executors will find them sufficiently ad-

AGRICOLE PERDIGUIES. The third writer, to whose death I have made sliusion, is M. Agricole Perdiguier, who owed a good deal of his reputation to the graquent menpera of humble parents, in a small town named | for the country, not as sound or sagacious in his | Ten' will be published in may.

vanced to give tuem promptly to the puole.

Morieres, near Avignon, and, while working as a mechanic, educated nimself by devoting to study at night the hours that should have been appropriated to sleep after a long spell of unremitting After composing a number of ingmen's songs, which attracted attention he published in Paris a copple of volumes on the benefits arising from trades unions and which were designed to put an end to the jealousies and quarrels which had previously existed among the guilds, and he had the satisfaction of living to see his efforts crowned with success. Sent to the Chamber in 1848 by the departments of Vauciuse and of the Seine, he made his selection in lavor of the latter and voted constantly with the Leit. Arrested on the 2d of December, he was exiled to Belgium and interned at Antwerp, where he wrote several other works on the duties and responsibilities of workmen and trades' unions. He returned to France in 1857 and kept a small hotel in the Rue Traversière St. Antoine. He died on Sunday last of apoplexy, at the age of sixty-nine years.

THE BOOK TRADE. Although complaints are general here regarding the stagnation of trade, I have never known greater activity than is being displayed in the publishing business. New publications follow each other with such rapidity that it is difficult to keep the run of them. Why the publishers should prosper while all other classes of tradesmen are suffering is an enigma which I cannot pretend to solve. Is it because people in general having little to do have more time to read, or is it because French tradespeople are constitutionally given to grumbling? I rather incline to the latter con-

I note with pleasure the growing tendency on the part of French writers to seek for subjects of discussion and illustration on the other side of the Atlautic. This is to be accounted for by the sympathy which is being created between France and the United States by a similarity of political institutions, as well as by the natural desire which prevails among sincere republicans at this side to strengthen their cause by preceden; and examples borrowed from our history. In a country like this, in wolch for more than half a century corruption has stifled everything like social and political morality, it became necessary to stimu. late into activity those feelings of national pride and seif-respect which have so long been discouraged or kept in subjection. What more ready means can be found of doing this than by showing from the lives of the founders and conservators of our republican institutions in America, that men of the humblest beginnings have among the most power:ul instruments raised up by the Almighty for the advancement and preservation of our liberties. It is, therefore, a healthy sign when we see French writers devoting their pens to the illustration of such charac. ters. It shows that they are impressed with the importance of that best and most irreproachable of all systems of pointeal propagandism-that of teaching by example—and it invisites them with an effective means of combating the insidious agencies of the Bonapartist organization, the schemes and practices of which have been so ably exposed in the report of M. Savary to the National ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Of the class of works of which I have been speaking one of the fairest examples that I can select is M. Jouann's hie of Abraham Lincoln, which has just been published by Hacaette & Cle. It is ail the more interesting from the fact that the author is not only well acquainted with the United States. but was actually an eye witness of some of the closing episodes of the life of his illustrious subject. He had been making a tour of the States and arrived in Washington just in time to witness the inauguration of Mr. Lincoln for his second Presidency. It was a solemn moment. Congress had voted the abolition slavery, the South appeared worn out and everything seemed to indicate a speedy termination of the unnatural contest that had so long desolated the Union. The President, surrounded by his Ministers, the Senate and the members of the diplomatic corps was about to renew his oath of fidelty to the constitution. The Frenchman was among the eager spectators of this interesting scene, and he describes the deep impression made upon him by the uncouth but striking face and figure of the man to whom the Republic was for the second time about to confide its destinies. "His movements," says M. Jouault, "were slovenly and awkward; his form was long, lanky and angular, and was more than six feet in height; his shoulders were stooped, and at his sides dangled long, listless arms that might have befitted a boatman, and which terminated in hands of extraordinary size, not disproportionate, however, to that of his feet. He were an illifitung black coat that gave him the appearance of an undertaker, and a black cravat fastened with a large bow, the ends of which hung carelessiy over his coat flaps. His turned down shirt coliar displayed to view the muscles of a sailow impression made upon him by the uncouth but and sinewy throat, above which, emerging from a quantity of wiry black hair, just like a grove of firs, rose a face irresistibly attractive It I was astounded at first by his lengthy extremities and enormous ears, I was soon fascinated by the benignancy, the intelligence and the air of simple wisdom that characterized his physiognemy." Thus does M. Jonaula present his hero to his readers, and it must be acknowledged that the portrait is not overdrawn. All who have ever seen Mr. Lincoln must have been similarly impressed by their first view of him. The speech which the President proceeded to deliver confirmed the favorable judgment thus formed at first sight. It was marked by sincerity, truthfulness and an air of projound conviction. The same evening our author was presented to Mr. Lincoin at the White House. He saw him twice afterward. at a banquet and at a ball, and then finally at the scene of his death-Ford's Theatre. He nessed the incidents of the murder, and it was the horror created in his mind by the event, as well as his admiration of the illustrious victim, which inspired the present volume, for it was commenced a few days after Mr. Lincoln's death, though only now completed. "Since then." says M. Jouault in his prelace, "laithful to his memory, I have endeavored to reproduce him as I knew him and to make the wisest, justest and honestest man of this our nineteenth century live over

again." portunities the work cannot but prove grateful to every patriotic American heart, while by Frenchmed it will be found full of instruction. The volume contains about 240 pages, including the appendix, and is divided into three parts-the first giving a very minute account of the youth of Mr. Lincoln; the second of his political life, commencing in 1847; and the third, of his Presidential career. The first part will naturally be most interesting to French readers as being least known to them. M. Jouault has compiled it with loving care, drawing his lacts from the most authentic sources of information and sedulously eschewing everything that did not bear close investigation. especially recommends this portion of the book to his countrymen, and impresses upon tnem the fact that Mr. Lincoin fuifilied all the promise of his youth, "because great private virare more powerful agents in cause of justice and of liberty than all the efforts of political genius companied by moral excellence. Mr. Lincoln, like many other great men, said of himself, 'All that I am, all that I would fain De, I owe to my She taught him to rely on Providence, and to be just in all his dealings. His father exacted constant occupation and prompt obedieuce. Hard poverty added its stern lessons to this already severe training, and thus was tormed one of the noblest and grandest characters or our times." Critically speaking, the book has some serious faults. The style is loose and wanting in power of condensation, but these dejects are atoned for by the interest of the subject and the unprecending way in which the story is told. Jouant is evidently an honest, sincere man, having the courage of his convictions, and caring littie whom he may displease by this hearty trioute to the model American republican.

ROBERT E. LEE. The volume recently published by Hetzel, under the title of "Un Vaincu," nos for its here another American, as honest and pure in character, no loubt, as Abraham Lincoln, out, unfortunately

political convictions. The author of the book is Mme. Boissonas, and it is dedicated to her sons, for whose benefit she says it was written. The example of Lec, she thinks, will inspire them with a sense of duty and ardent pat: totism. It is unfortugate that the example that this lady holds up to the imitation of her children should be that of a man whose sectional preserences and talents wrongly employed anould have protracted uselessly a sanguluary struggle and entailed countless miseries upon his country. What sort of model is that of a soldier who could give utterance to such a sentiment as this:- "The most difficult thing in revolutionary times is not to do one's duty, but to know it." Lincoln never could have expressed such an idea. He always anew his duty and never hesitated an instant in the performance of it. Much as I admire the patience, fortitude and sweetness of Lee's character ter, I must say that I cannot sympathize with this book, which seems to me intended to encourage the spirit of faction in France by devoting to the rank of patriotic aims mere partisan devotion. The time is perhaps not far distant when those to whom the book is addressed will find themselves like Lee compelled to make their election between their country and their "section." I therefore regard with distrust a work which, while ostensibly written to impress upon the growing generation in France a sense of patriotic duty, selects for its exemplar a man whose friendships and affections overruled the dictates of his conscience, and whose infidelity to the national flag cost him the severest mental anguish. It is curious that Lee's biographers should be mostly women. The fact is consistent with the generally received opinion that the war of secession was one of sentiment rather than conviction. Hence it was that the women of the confederacy exercised so powerful an influence in keeping alive the spirit of rebellion and in protracting the stringgle has beyond the period when the certainty of lailure had impressed itself on men's minds. Lee will be long the hero of the petiticoars and the poets. By serious minds he will merely be ranked among the men who might have achieved great things had they been influenced by settled convictions. Of course, I will be understood as speaking of Lee as a solder and statesman only. His private life was pure and free from blemish, and it is only to be wondered at how so good and virtuous a man could have been betrayed into such errors of judgment.

"L'Ancien Orient," by M. Léon Carre, possesses an interest independent of its subject and which is connected with the career of the author himself. M. Carre had already acquired would nave appailed even a German votary of culturational interaction. With an energy that would have appailed even a German votary of culturating the original text, ne devoired everytoing that had been written in that language, together with the works of English and German translators and commentators. After spending thirty years in the sort of English and German translators and commentators. After spending thirty years in these preparatory studies he commenced his own work. Consisting of four volumes of 400 pages each, which embrace his summary and criticism of the labors of other writers upon the East. Twelve months ago, his great task accomplished. In came to Parts with his summary and criticism of the labors of other writers upon the East. When the slope of the summary and criticism of the labors of the page each, which embrace his summary and criticism his own of the labors of other writers upon the East. When the slope of the summary and criticism of the labors of other writers upon the East. When the slope of other writers upon the sast.

Twelve months ago, his great task accomplished to submit to an operation for the slope, when his proof sheets. When the slope should be a pro Confederacy exercised so powerful an influence in keeping alive the spirit of rebeilion and in pro-

M. Felix Rocquant's new work "Etndes sur Panceone France." makes its appearance at a for unate time, masmuch as it will nelp to dispet the scepticism of those who, after four years of the most satisfactory experience, still persist in doubting that meeral institutions can confer permanent suppliess and prosperity upon France. nately of late years has marzed the course of our

nately of late years has marked the course of our rulers in washington.

ACBJES THE CONTINENT.

M. Simonin's new work "A Iravers les Etats Unis de l'Athanique au l'acaque" is lively and interesting, though a little benind time. A journey by coach, over the old overland route, carries us back to a period comparatively recent in point of date, it is true, but still a secase or two distant in point of progress. Even for French readers the story of those days has comparatively but little interest. What they want to near about now is the wonderful speed and the comparative comfort with which travellers are warred over the cleak plains and endless wastes that he between Omaha and San Francisco. Of course all that portion of the book that relates to Mormonism and its practices makes attractive reading for Frenchmen. There is no subject in which toey are more inquisitive than the manner in which were are managed in Utan. They have so much trouble with their own complicated domestic relations that they would gradity borrow a lesson or two from Brignam Young.

In the department of fiction there are but few

mestic relations that they would gradly borrow a lesson or two from Brignam Young.

In the department of fiction there are but few issues of special interest to noise. From the press of magnetic & Co., we have a new novel "miss Koven," which seems to mit the prevaining taste. It is cieverly and amusingly written, and perhaps the most amusing seature of it is that it professes to be moral. The author's ideas of morality, however, atrikes one to be about on a par who his acquaintance with English notions and habits. Lady Rovel is a femme galante, who, having southerned an afficiable separation from her weary spoule, devotes herself at the ripe age of forty to an arraious search after a maic liveal. It is scarcely necessary to say that she passes through years of intimate sand obscouraging experiences without attaining her object. Her little daughter, Meg. 1s, of course, neglected, and grows up a wild, untured out beautiful girl. What may not be expected from the called of such a mother. She performs lests which often make the leader tremuse, and which the world in general would call compromising, but true to her passion for the hero of the take, an odd sort of character soured by the desertion of another lady-love (a married woman) hims hovel determines to wed him—if she call. Having achieved never herosic likes her mamma. Those all companion movern from his facture will entertain a pleasant remembrance of M. Charles Deunia's "Coutes on Roo. Gambrioux." Under the litter of "flistelites de Fethe Ville" he gives us another collection of his quant legends and stories, the scenes of which are again line at Coundesurof "fistoires de Petite Ville" he gives us another collection of his quant legenus and stories, the scenes of which are again land at Conde-sur-Pascaut. Some of these are biting political and social satires—such, for instance, as "Le Percepteur dans 'Embarias," which will be keenly enjoyed by American readers, masmoon as it full-cues the miscinevous habit of sweeping out of office superstante functionaties with every change of administration. A dever sait upon newspaper men is also the sketch entitled "Anidor Caonusl." whose prototype is to be found in every town and village in the United States, atthough the portrait is strictly a Frenci one.

A late number of the Recue Politique et Litéraire contains an excellent article on the New York highard. It gives a compute sketch of the rise and progress of the journal, and pays an eloquent trioure to the memory of its founder, as well as to the spirit and enterprise of his son.

LITERARY CHIT-CHAT.

The first instalment of Swinburge's book on the progress of Snakespeare's style will appear in the May number of the Foringhity Review. A new edition of his earlier poems will appear soon, with wo pieces that have never before been published. The French Academy has awarded the prize

or a poem on Lavingstone to M. Guillard. Scribner's Monthly, for May, will contain an article on the Sastimore Bonapartes by Engene L. Didler, with portraits of many of that distinguished family. An article on the new Opera House at Paris, by Frederick A. Schwab, musical critic of the Times, will also appear in this number, and be processiy illustrated.

The Little Corporal and the Schoolday Magazine have consolidated with 3t. Nichotas. Marion fiarand's "Bre-kfast, Luncheon and

FRENCH THEATRICALS.

"A Russian Wedding" at the Salle Ventadeur.

How the Boyards Ruled Their Families.

MME. CARVALHO IN "OPHELIA"

Melingue, the Actor of Romantic Roles.

PABIS, April 2, 1875. The first representation of the Russian troupe took place on Wednesday last at the Salle Ventadour. Up to the previous day there were rumors in circulation that the project had been abandoned owing to the exhaustion of the pecuniary resources at the disposal of the director; but the obstacle, if it really existed, was overcome in time, and there was a very lair audience-of course principally Russians-to witness the performance. Although utterly ignorant of the language of the piece I thought it might offer some features of interest worth noting, and accordingly took an orchestra stall in order to command a good view of all parts of the house. The boxes were well filled, out of compliment, I presume, to Prince Orloff, who has taken great interest in the enterprise, but the less fashionable portions of the salle exhibited a larger number of unoccupied seats than is usual on the occasion of a first representation. This was perhaps natural, owing to the piece being in a language which is less known to the French than any other European tongue; but I had occasion to rejoice that I had not been deterred from being present by this dimculty, for I can say with truth that I have never been more interested by any theatrical performance in my life. The fact that, although I did not understand a word of the dialogue, I never for a moment lound my attention wandering from the stage, and that every one around me appeared to be similarly absorbed, is the best proof that I can offer of the novel and peculiarly interesting char-

The plot of the "Noce Russe," or Russian wedding, as it is cailed, is of the slenderest character, and merely serves as a framework to connect a series of tableaux illustrative of the social life of Russia previous to the accession of Peter the Great, from whose time dates its first start in civilization. "The boyard of the sixteenth century," says Prince Lubomirski in a prelatory article on the piece, "was a hybrid sort of beinga slave and sovereign at the same time. Bowed to the dust in the presence of the Czar, he became despotic and imperious as soon as he re-entered his home. This dual existence, based on two social situations entirely opposite, had for its result the strange, mysterious and tacttura manner in which the Eussian nobles of the sixteenth century understood the regulaci n of their interior life. The work of M. Soukhonine initiates us into all the details, archeologically correct, of a boyard's home. The Russians porrowed from the Byzantines, with whom they had frequent relations, the minutious cerem hial of the Cassars of Constantinoble. The Tartars, who held all Muscovy under their yoke for more than a couple of centuries, also leit a trace of their passage-the claustration of the women. A boyard lived in his terem surrounded by a little world of lools, parasites and slaves. The women were shut up in the portion of the dwelling appropriated to them, and where no one but their lord and master could penetrate. Wives, sons, daughters and sisters depended absolutely on the will of the chief, whose umbrageous

despotism held every one in check. It is the life, the outlines of which are thus sketched, which the piece gives us in action and certainly in quaintness, picturesque fidelity and elaborateness of detail, I know nothing on the stage that can be compared to it. The effect produced on the spectator is so real that he entirely torgets he is in a theatre, and imagines nimself transported by some magic influence into a strange world where all is novel, curious and solemnly comic to him, if I can use so paradoxical an expression. But before proceeding further with this analysis of my impressions, let me give the thread of the story, so as to enable my read. ers to understand how out of a marriage coremony the author has contrived to spin out a piece of five acts, the interest of which never stackens or becomes suspended.

fails in love, and the accident nappens to him in this way :- One night he is on the high road of Pskoff with a detachment or soldiers, in charge of a number of army wagons, when he observes, endeavoring to pass them, a sledge containing two ladies, one elderly and the other young and beaumul. The soldiers treat them roughly and inso lently, but Viadimir hastens to their assistance and disperses them. The young lady's eyes en connier his and from that moment they are in love with each other. Viadimir inquires the name of the mir unknown and is informed that she is the daughter of the boyard Zvenigordski, mortal enemy or his father. He to overcome the rancor of this paternal feud. but he learns that so lar from being disposed to allow him to wed the object of his affections, his dather has conceived the l'ea of uniting him to Marie, the daughter of Prince Andre Sointzed, Viadium' is thrown into despair, and he firmly reuses to accede to his lather's plans of marriage for him until he hears of the death of his believed. "I must bit her a last adled," he says, and rushes off to contempiate the leatures of zvenigorusk's dead daughter. "But it is not her!" he exclaims, on beholding the coppe. "They have deceived me. She waom isaw at P-koff was not the daughter of Zvenigordski." Just as he is represented abandoned to grief and despair at the death of his beloved, the curtain rises and we are shown the preparations for his marriage to Marie, to which in his inssitude and hopelessness he had almost consecuted. It should be stated that at the epoch in which the drama is laid it was usual for father has conceived the idea of uniting him to

which in his institude and hoperessness in and almost consected. It should be stated that at the epoch in which the drama is laid it was usual for the newly married husband not to raise the veil which covered the face of his bride until after the wedding. The young couple are allowed to pass the time of the emborate marriage ceremonies in grief and appreciation, and the denomener is only reached when they enter the nuptual chamber and when the enter the nuptual chamber and when the removal of the bridsh veil discloses to Viadimir's view the features of his believed, the unknown of Pskof, whose name had been erroneously indicated to him.

Nothing can be simpler or more primitive, it will be acknowledged, than this plot, and yet it serves as the paramount to a number of situations of the highest interest, and each of which forms a curious study in itself. In these the story is so the highest interest, and each of which forms a curious study in itself. In these the story is so painly and graphically told that the spectator has seldom occasion to refer to the fibratio, which, it should be neded, is as full and descriptive as can be ossited.

The chief interest of the piece is, I need scarcely say, to be found in the accurate picture which is presented to us of the manners of a semi-barbarous age, in which, however, are to be traced some remains of the old Byzantine civilization, with its elaborate forms and ceremonies and taste for splendor in costume. He music and chartened the substance of the music and corresponds and constitutes a leature of sching attraction. And in this connection let us fait that one of the fines constitute a leature of sching attraction. And in this connection let us fait that one of the fines contraint voices I have ever heard is that or Mile. Puskawa, a popil of the Miscow Conservatione. See was enested in all her solos, and contributed greatly to the success of the peace. Soveral itussian dances are introduced in the course of the evening, and in que of them movements.

The costumes and

every one by the grace and picturesqueness of her movements.

The costumes and accessories of this piece are of a spiendor and costiness of which you can form but hitte conception at your sine. The dresses of the actresses are entirely composed of gold and silver insues, begans embrodiered while gems, and nothing can be quantier or more peculiar than the forms of the confures. The costumes of the men are quality fich and curious in their war. The peculiarity of all this is that it strikes one with an air of reality, the gravity and carnestness of the performers, of course, contributing in no small cerres to the illusion. As I have before intimated, the impression to be gathered from the larges of the speciators was that they were assisting at a scene of fealihed, and when the curtain 1-11 heard nothing on every side but exchamations of "flow interesting," "How curious." I do not know what amount of pecunary success is reserved for these representations, but I shall be very much surprised it, with their keen appreciation of all that is the and praiseworthy in art, the Paristans of not bestow upon them a interest patronage. The same class of chierraniment in the United States Would make the lortene of a manager.

Ophelia at the Grand Opera on Wednesday evening, and the Paris critics have all gone into costacies over her performance. It would be difficult to assemble together a greater number of absurd and extravagant flowers of inlisome retetoric than have been lavished upon it in their notices of this morning. Just take tais passage as an example :—"Mme. Carvalho has sculptured the vocalizations of the waitzes in fa, and the delicate and bardy arpeggios of the Swediss song, Paic and Blonde, with the art peculiar to the great chisellers of the sixteen h century. The tissue of vocal embroderies is united with the exquisite finess and the firmness of an art, always master of itself, in its audactousness or in its caprices. The grapetit and the trills of Opucia resemble the steepicchase of a squirrel on the rugged neights of the gammt." Ac. Bo you desire to know the motive of all this extravagant enthusiasm? Mme. Carvalno is the first frenchwoman who has undertaken the part, and, therefore, she was bound to outshine all her predecessors. Now, I have great respect for the talent of this fine artist, but no amount of high-sounding hyperoole will convince me that she is at all to be compared with Nilsson in this rolle. The enthusiasm of the French critics is creditable by their patriotism, but it does not do much honor to their sense of justice. Inasmuca as they seek to decreate the greatest living impersonator of the role in order to cievate the reputation of their country woman at her expense.

Meingue, the d'Artagnan of Dumas, is dead. The as a man of varied rather than of brilliant talents, and was a clever scupptor and painter as well as a good actor. He was a prave, honest, independent-spirited Frenchman withal, and hated shams of every kind. He had a keen wit and joyous irankness that rendered him one of the pleasantest companious in the word. To those qualities he added the character of a good husband and a good lainer. Curious to say, he was exceedingly sensitive to ridicule, attraugh rather disposed by the cockneys.

AMUSEMENTS.

THE CINCINNATI MUSICAL FESTIVAL

A musical festival of unusually grand proportions and artistic excellence commences in Cincinnati on May 11, under the direction of the very able leader, Theodore Thomas. The concert hall, which was originally built for one of the annual Sangeriests of the Germans, is 220 feet in length, 110 leet in width and height 75 leet. The principal vocal performers will be Miss Abbie Whinnery and Mrs. H. W. Smitu, soprani; Miss Annie Louise Cary and Miss Emma Cranch, alti; Mr. H. A. Bischeff and Mr. W. J. Winen, tenors, and Mr. M. W. Whitney and Mr. F. Remmertz, bassos, The organist will be Mr. Dudley Buck, and the assistant conductor Herr Otto Singer. The chorus will consist of over five hundred voices and the orchestra will exceed a hundred strong. The following is the musical programme:-

TUESDAY EVENING, May 11.-1. Triumphal Hymn, opus 55, J. Braums, in eight parts, iuil chorus, organ and orchestra. 2. Symphony No 7, in A, opus 92, Beethoven. 3. The principal scenes from Wagner's opera, "Lohengrin," Mrs. Smith as Elsa, Miss Cary as Ortrud, Mr. Bischoff as Lohengrin, Mr. Remmertz as Friedrica of Telramund and Mr. Whitnay as the Herald. Full chorus and orchestra.

WEDNESDAY, May 12-Matinée.-1. Overture, "Leonora," No. 2. Beethoven. 2. "In Native Worth," from Haydn's "Creation." 3. Contraito aria, irom ' Clemenza di Tito," Mozart. 4. Scherzo, Reformation Symphony, Mendelssohn. & Soprano aria, "North Star," Meyerbeer. 6. Hungarian Dances, Brahms. 7. Trio, "Fremate, Empy Tremate," Beetnoven. 8. Overture, "Tannauser," Wagner, and tenor romanza, from same. v. Meditation, Gounda, lor string orchestra. 10. Aria, for contraito. "Mignon," Thomas. 11. Prio, "William Tell," Rossini. 12. Overture, "William Tell," In the evening the oratorio of "Elijan" will be performed. THURSDAY, May 18-Matinee, -Choruses by the

THURSDAY, May 13—Matinée,—Choruses by the children of the public schools. 1. Fostival Overture, E. Lassen. 2. Chorus, "Prayer." Gluck. 3. Tenor solo, "Die Allmacht," Schwert. 4. Soprano solos, "Spirit Song" and "Springtisse." Hayda. 5. Cuorus, "Night Shades No Longer," Rossiul. 6. Soug, "I'm a roamer," Mendelssoull. 7. Cantata, "in Frinse oi Friendsinp," Mozart. 8. Huidigung's March, Wagner. 8. Concer. aria, "line ice," Mendelssond. 10. Chorus, "Strike the Cymbal" Pucitta. 11. Contraito aria, "Gli Ugonotti," Meyerbeer. 12. "Devil's Darning Needle." Strauss. 13. Chorus, "America." 12 the evening Baco's "Mashifeat" in D. Consisting of twelve numbers, will be performed for the first time in America. Symphony No. 9. In D minor, of Sectioven.

FRIDAY, May 14—Matinée,—1. Overture, "Consectation of the thouse," Becthoven. 2. Anitts, "in questa tomba," Becthoven. 3. Aria, "Marriage of Figaro," Mozart, 4. Aria, "S. Fah," Marriage of Figaro," Mozart, 4. Aria, "S. Fah," Marcalesson. 5. Aria, "Oppheus," Gluck. 6. Selections from the third act, "Metherzunger von Arinberg," Wagner. 7. Overture and quartet. 7. Over ure beig," Waguer. 7. Over ure and quartet, "Oboron," weer. 8. Aria, "I Profes," Mayer-beer. 9. Aria, "Acis and Guiatea," Handel 10. "Enapsodie Hongroise," No. 2, Liszt, 11. Quartet, "tiggletto," Verdi. in the evening win be given Schubert's symptony in C, the great fire scene from "Die Warkten," Wagner, and a symptonic soem or overture and a caniata, "Mi-rder's Prometheus," by Liszt.

The experienced hand of Mr. Thomas may be seen in the arrangement of the above programmes, and with such an orenestra as he can furnish and such a chorus as Mr. Singer can train, there is every reason to expect a rare musical treat on the banks of the Onlo Bext mouth.

COULESSE CHAT. Mme. Ristori will visit Palladeiphia, Boston and

Baltimore. Joe Jefferson and his dog Schneider are with the Clevelanders.

Ciara Morris is at Philadelphia at the Walnut The Fath Avenue company will visit San Fran-

cisco in the summer. Giroffé-Giroffa will suon be reproduced, with Aimee in the dual roles. The last nights of "Dary Crockett" are an-

nounced at the Park Theatre.
Pat Rooney, an Irish comic singer, has made a merited success at the Olympic.

Lawrence Barrett opens May 3 at the Buffalo cademy of Music for a snort season.

Mile. Aimée will appear during the week in "La Jolie Partameuse," which made a great success. Katharine Randolph Rogers has played a successful engagement at the San Francisco Theatre. Mile. Rose D'Erina, the Irish vocalist, Will sing in a concert at the Church of the Redeemer thus

eventug. Theodore Thomas gave a grand farewell matinée yesterday, at Steinway Hall, at which Miss Cary sang.

Leona Dare, the graceful and daring female gymnast, continues to create a sensation at the

Miss Anna E. Dunphy will be offered a complimentary concert at Plymouth church Thursday evening, April 22. Goundd is writing afresh from memory his

pera "Polyeute," the original score having been stolen from him. During last week the "Shaughraun" drew more

money in Boston than during any time of its long run in New York. "Le Tour du Monde" is to be translated into Russian. Nisson's success in "Hamlet," at Marsellies, was immense.

Miss Jeunie Hughes leaves the American Theatre. Philadelphia, for Pittaburg, next week, after a most brillant engagement. E. L. Daveuport closed a successful engage-

ment at Gaiveston, Texas, on the 10th inst. He will appear to-morrow at Louisville, Ky. Emile de Girardin wrote a ridiculous one-act

Among the new artistes engaged by M. Halangier is Mile. Marie Pecuter, daugnter of the well

It was a sad failure and deserved to be so,

beautiful representation of the most attractive play of the season has not been placed on the American boards. Miss Adah Richmond will play the leading park in "Ahmed" during the week, which will be the

last of the performance of this brilliant spectacle. Owing to the expiration of Mrs. Dunn's lease,

"Abmed" must be withdrawn. "Mr. Louis Aidrich, the leading man at Wood's Museum, a painstaking and accomplished actor, will receive a benefit Monday afternoon. feature of the programme will be Mr. Frank Mavo's performance of Raphiel in "The Marble

Heart." Mrs. Bryant, the widow of the lamented public favorite, expresses her warmest and most heartfelt thanks on behalf of herself and her children. to those who have so promptly and actively taken up the subject of a testimonial to the memory of her beloved husband and to the protection of her

family against pecuniary distress. Dion Boucicault has made an immense hit in Boston. The Hubbites think more of his acting in the part of Conn than they do even of the "Shaughraun" as a play. In this they display excellent judgment, for not a little of the suc that remarkable drama is due to the finished and

consummate art of the chief performer. After having been admired in England, Ireland. Scotland and other countries of Europe the trained animals of the Howe & Cusbing circus return to America, and it will astonish the natives of Brookiyn and Williamsburg on Tuesday and Wednesday next. Howe's is certainly one of the finest circuses of the world, and will, doubt less, be well patronized by the public.

The Windsor Dramatic Club will give a performance and reception at the Lexington avenue Opera House, on Tuesday evening, the 27th instant. "The Honey-Moon" will be presented on the occasion. The previous entertainments given by the Windsor this season deserved and met with success. This club seems destined to preserve a vigorous and long existence.

Miss Netison appears at Booth's Theatre on the 26th inst., as Amy Robsart. Jarrett & Paimes have given extraordinary attention to the production of the play and there is a pro pect that the engagement of the fascinating English actress will be very successful. Miss Neilson makes but fourteen appearances, having determined to leave for Europe at the conclusion of her engagement. She will remain abroad for two years.

The present is positively the last week of the great Shakespearean pageant, "Henry V.," and of the engagement of Rignold at Booth's Theatre. The play, a though it has reached its seventy-fitth representation, appears to be in the very height of its prosperity. The matinee yesterday drew an immense audience, probably 3,000 being present.
Arrangements are being made for a grand evation to Rignold at the farewell matinde next Saturday.

Tae New York managers have taken up warmly the idea of a benefit performance in aid of Dan Bryant's family. He was so general a favorite in his own profession, as well as with the public, that there is no doubt as to the success of the efforts to help his family. Almost the last act of his life was an effort in the cause of charity, and the public ought not to lorget that they are his debtors for innumerable acts of kindness.

Professor Sedgwick, who was attached to the photographic and engineering corps of the Union Pacific Railroad, has been engaged in the delivery of a remarkable course of illuminated lectures descriptive of American scenery. The chief feature of these "Across the Continent" lectures consists in 2,000 transparent photographs, showing with great vivianess and accuracy the most strike-ing scenery of the North American continent, These lectures have been denvered over 400 nights and have met with flattering success.

General W. T. Sherman and party, consisting o Mrs. Sperman, Mr. Eno (of the Fifth Avenue Hotel) and family, visited Booth's Theatre one evening last week to see "Henry V." They were received at the Twenty-tuird street entrance by Mr. Jarrett and escorted to a prescenium box amid the hearts applause of the great audience. So soon as they were seated the band, under the direction Michael Councily, struck up "Hall to the Chief," afterwards "Hall Columbia" and finally man's March Torough Georgia," the latter air arousing the enthusiasm of the people to such a pitch that an outburst of cheering came from every part of the house. The General rose from his seat and bowed his acknowledgments. The snow storm prevented the carrying out of that part of the programme which promised a display of fireworks upon the arrival of the distinguished guest.

BUTTING BULLS AND BEARS

CHANGES-ANOTHER SPELLING TILT-VICTORS OF THE BROAD STREET ORTHOGRAPHISTS One of the most thrilling spelling matches ever

vesterday afternoon in the Governing Committee's room of the New York Stock Exchange. Mys terious circulars were usued in the morning inviting a few members of the Gold Exchange te meet a chosen number of the Stock Exchange is a friendly contest for supremacy, according to the rules lately made and adopted by the spelling champions of the East and West, cordingly, after the close of business, there rushed up the iron staircase leading to the room appointed a mass of well-dressed brokers from Broad and New streets, who took places and prepared themselves for the exciting contest. Mr. the nosts on the side of the Stock Exchange and Mr. Kavanagh was the captain of the gold boys J. O. Stevens, with his mellifluous voice and mustache a la Napoleon, was on the left of the prestdent, and was distinguished for general depravity of speech, Mr. J. W. Newton was puried in his dio tionary, and seemed to regard the occasion as one of the most momentous of his life. Mr. S. V. White, close-shaven and alert, appeared to be on nently placed on the Investigating Committee. Among the crowd were noticed the hilarlous Alderman Clews, jolly Charley Pearing, Jim Adderman Clews, joly Charley Fearing, Jim Smith, the rosiest Epicurean of the screet; Mo. Mitched, the hermit of the Hudson; Jim Selover, who lately met with an accident, but such a little one it should not count; that, byans, the Michael Angelo of New York; monte, Isaacs, the sweet voice of the Board; young Van Schaick, the nephcw of bis uncie; H. L. Horton and John Fondr; Jake Rubino and K. K. Enos, the philosophers of the Gold Exchange Uncie Daniel Brew, with dusky voice, said to have porous plasters six inches thick on his chest; Howard Lapsiey, with flowers, as usual, and Mr. Seligman, hopeful of heart but ingubrious of aspect to say nothing of the unnamed numbreds whe thronged the room in adxious expectation of luntime the property work whether works.

to say notolog of the unnamed nundreds was thronged the foom in adxious expectation of lunder thronged the foom in adxious expectation of lundreds was "raccoon," which was correctly shorted by Mr. Ely. Cat calls succeeded of "he been up a tree himself," Ac. The President spit his manet in preserving order.

Mr. Horton speit "quarantite" properly, but went up on "whoow," Cries of "send nim out West," Ac. Mr. Horton went to the rear. Mr. Wadsworth spelt "peroration" properly, but shipped up on "pinnace"—a small boat-spelling it in such a way as to create roars of iaugniter, and leaving the meaning in much doubt, The gold granocers shouted, "Give nim a houst" "cider," "mamm.y," "mide." "noooy," "mare." were all conquered success mily by messrs. Boody, Harry Camulos, Fair-child, "Sooters' boy" and Edward Brandou respectively; but when it came to "Pyrrine" sam Lapsley rushed to the front to spoil, but was instiled out, as he was an ex-metaer, and advised to "put" or he would be "cailed," One or two gentiemen wrestled with the word, but finally it was correctly put to letter of Eugene Bogers, who was discovered after ward to have a pocket "heathen Mythology" hidden on his person.

The greatest excitement provailed at this time when it was announced that

person.
The greatest excitement prevailed at this time when it was announced that
THE SCORE STOOD
Stock Exchange.
Gold Exchange.
Hats were thrown in the air; cheers dealened the ears and bets were freely offered that the contest would result in a draw, but an unfortunate spelling or "sockdolager" sent one of the gold boys to grass, and cries of "take him nouse" were freely thouled.
Words were then announced as capable of being

completing her musical education.

A meeting of the members of the press has been called by Mr. While Winier, at the Park Theatre, on Monday, to decise means of along the Bryans testimonial. It will be largely attended.

Mr. James W. Morrissey will receive a farewell benefit at the Pith Avonue Theatre April 21, previous to his departure for Callornia. The programme as arranged is remarkably interesting.

Luliaa Conway and Rose Massey are the "Iwo Orpaans" at the Brooklyn Theatre, and a more